
By: **Delegates Nathan-Pulliam and Patterson**
Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2003
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Insurance - Kidney Dialysis Services - Coinsurance Payments**

3 FOR the purpose of limiting the coinsurance payment amount that a health insurer,
4 nonprofit health service plan, or health maintenance organization may charge
5 or collect for kidney dialysis services provided in a kidney dialysis center to an
6 individual with chronic kidney disease; defining a certain term; providing for
7 the application of this Act; and generally relating to health insurance
8 coinsurance payments for kidney dialysis services.

9 BY adding to
10 Article - Health - General
11 Section 19-706(zz)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

14 BY adding to
15 Article - Insurance
16 Section 15-118.1
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
20 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21 **Article - Health - General**

22 19-706.

23 (ZZ) THE PROVISIONS OF § 15-118.1 OF THE INSURANCE ARTICLE APPLY TO
24 HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS.

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Article - Insurance

2 15-118.1.

3 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "KIDNEY DIALYSIS CENTER" HAS THE MEANING STATED
4 IN § 19-3B-01(H) OF THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE.

5 (B) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO:

6 (1) INSURERS AND NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLANS THAT PROVIDE
7 HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS ON AN
8 EXPENSE-INCURRED BASIS UNDER HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES OR CONTRACTS
9 THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE; AND

10 (2) HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE HOSPITAL,
11 MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS UNDER CONTRACTS
12 THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE.

13 (C) FOR KIDNEY DIALYSIS SERVICES PROVIDED IN A KIDNEY DIALYSIS
14 CENTER TO AN INDIVIDUAL WITH CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE, AN ENTITY SUBJECT
15 TO THIS SECTION MAY ONLY CHARGE OR COLLECT FROM AN INSURED A SINGLE
16 COINSURANCE PAYMENT AMOUNT IN A 3-MONTH PERIOD.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall apply to all
18 policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State
19 on or after October 1, 2003. Any policy, contract, or health benefit plan in effect before
20 October 1, 2003 shall comply with the provisions of this Act no later than October 1,
21 2004.

22 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
23 October 1, 2003.